



# Office of Minority Counsel and Program

## Senator John J. Flanagan

### Republican Conference and Minority Leader

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May 18, 2020

Dean Nilanjan Sen  
School of Business, UAlbany  
1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222

Professor Ingrid Fisher  
Department Chair, Department of Accounting and Law  
School of Business, UAlbany, 1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222

Re: New Online Courses in Law

Dear Dean Sen and Professor Fisher:

As you know, the COVID-19 virus has required the University to begin to offer many of its Business Law courses on-line.

This was done to protect our students and staff, as well as to follow Governor Cuomo's Executive Orders, regarding work from home directives and social distancing requirements.

This past spring, like many of my colleagues, I transformed the second half of my Business Law 321 class (Law of Business Organizations) to an on-line platform.

I received many positive reactions from my students, for these efforts, and have attached a few of their comments for your examination.

Although I am a firm believer that few things can compare to the value that in-person lecturing can make toward a quality educational experience, it appears that we still may still have to offer, at least some of our course work, on-line this coming fall. Sadly, the continued challenges of the COVID-19 virus, may make it extremely difficult for the state to immediately and completely re-open its educational facilities, so as to take advantage of their previous in-person classroom opportunities.

As a result, please know that I am prepared to transform my Business Law 421 class (Law of Property), which I am scheduled to teach this fall, to an on-line format, in the same manner that I did for my BLaw 321 class, this past spring.

Additionally, I would also like to propose offering three additional on-line Business Law classes to our students this fall.

These three new classes, which I am prepared to build on-line, and teach on the same adjunct basis as I do for BLaw 421, would offer students a more diverse and extensive education in Business Law, in interesting and timely subject matters.

Such new classes would include BLaw 431: The Law of Administrative Agencies, BLaw 441: The Law of Artificial Intelligence, and BLaw 461: The Law of Pandemics.

To help further understand these classes more completely, I have taken the liberty of attaching a bulletin description, and a proposed syllabus, for each such class.

Please know that I have taught all these subjects in different formats, including as portions of my other classes here at UAlbany, as well as in continuing legal education programs.

An abbreviated lecture for the law of administrative agencies can be found at:

<http://www.bobfarley.us/0300lawclasses/315businessorganizationlaw/applefilms/clv13m4v.m4v>

and an abbreviated lecture for the law of pandemics can be found at the following web page at:

<http://www.bobfarley.us/0300lawclasses/365homelandsecuritylaw/pandemic.htm>

At a time when the challenges our students have been forced to face have been significant, I believe it would be very beneficial, to offer them more choices and options, in new, interesting and important areas of Business Law.

As an experienced and well-regarded professor at this University we love, it would be my honor and privilege, to have the chance to deliver these choices and options to our students. I truly believe it would make a meaningful difference in our students' lives and education, as well as improve the educational opportunities provided by the School of Business.

I would be most grateful if we might be able to arrange a brief zoom meeting, to discuss any interest you might have in this proposal. I would be further delighted to participate in such, at any time, of your convenience.

Thank you so very much for all you do for our University, School of Business and for me personally. Please know I am deeply grateful for any consideration you might kindly afford to my proposal.

My Warmest Personal Regards,

Most Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert T. Farley".  
Robert T. Farley